

10/586346  
JAP6 Rec'd PCT/PTO 14 JUL 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE/RECEIVING OFFICE**

In re Application of

Yuichi TSUKAGUCHI

Serial No.: U.S. National Phase Entry of PCT/JP2004/019260

Filed: July 14, 2006

For: IMMERSION NOZZLE FOR CONTINUOUS CASTING AND CONTINUOUS  
CASTING METHOD USING THE IMMERSION NOZZLE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

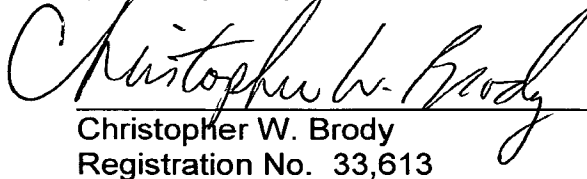
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Applicants respectfully submit that this disclosure is being made with the filing of the application, hence, no fee is required, however, please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1088.

Respectfully submitted,  
CLARK & BRODY

  
Christopher W. Brody  
Registration No. 33,613

**Customer No. 22902**  
1090 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Suite 250  
Washington DC 20005  
Telephone: 202-835-1111  
Facsimile: 202-835-1755

Docket No.: 12137-0005  
Date: July 14, 2006

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /SK/

|   |                                       |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| FORM PTO-1449<br><br>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE<br><br>LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary) | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br><b>12137-0005</b> | SERIAL NO.<br><b>107586346</b><br>New Application |
|   | APPLICANT<br><b>Yuichi TSUKAGUCHI</b> |   |
|   | FILING DATE<br><b>July 14, 2006</b>   | GROUP ART UNIT<br><b>Not yet assigned</b>         |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |    | DOCUMENT<br>NO. | DATE   | NAME       | CLASS                                 | SUB-<br>CLASS | FILING<br>DATE |
|---------------------|----|-----------------|--------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
|                     | 1. | 4,819,840       | 4/1989 | Lax et al. | (Listed on the Intl<br>Search Report) |               | Jul. 10, 1987  |
|                     |    |                 |        |            |                                       |               |                |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |     | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE    | COUNTRY | CLASS   | SUB-<br>CLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO PART. |  |   |
|--|-----|--------------|---------|---------|---|---------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
|  | 2.  | WO99/15291   | 4/1999  | WIPO    | (Listed on Page 2 of<br>the Specification)                          |               |                             |  | X |
|  | 3.  | 2002-239690  | 8/2002  | JAPAN   | (Listed on Page 2 of<br>the Specification)                          |               |                             |  | X |
|  | 4.  | 05-169212    | 7/1993  | JAPAN   | (Listed on Page 2 of<br>the Specification)                          |               |                             |  | X |
|  | 5.  | 11-123509    | 5/1999  | JAPAN   | (Listed on Page 2 of<br>the Specification)                          |               |                             |  | X |
|  | 6.  | 06-218508    | 8/1994  | JAPAN   | (Listed on Page 2 of<br>the Specification &<br>the Intl Search Rpt) |               |                             |  | X |
|  | 7.  | 62-10942     | 1/1987  | JAPAN   | (Listed on the Intl<br>Search Report)                               |               |                             |  | X |
|  | 8.  | 2003-025048  | 1/2003  | JAPAN   | (Listed on the Intl<br>Search Report)                               |               |                             |  | X |
|  | 9.  | 09-285852    | 11/1997 | JAPAN   | (Listed on the Intl<br>Search Report)                               |               |                             |  | X |
|  | 10. | 62-6957      | 1/1987  | JAPAN   | (Listed on the Intl<br>Search Report)                               |               |                             |  | X |
|  | 11. | 2003-311381  | 11/2003 | JAPAN   | (Listed on the Intl<br>Search Report)                               |               |                             |  | X |
|  | 12. | 09-295108    | 11/1997 | JAPAN   | (Listed on the Intl<br>Search Report)                               |               |                             |  | X |
|  | 13. | 4-39547      | 4/1992  | JAPAN   | (Listed on the Intl<br>Search Report)                               |               |                             |  | X |

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| EXAMINER<br><br>/Scott Kastler/  | DATE CONSIDERED<br><br>01/29/2009 |
| <p>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p> |                                   |

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /SK/